

Version with markings to show changes made

8. (amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the mapping step includes providing an interleaver of size $N_{row} \times N_{col}$, where $N_{row} = \log_2(M)$ and $N_{col} = N_{trans}/N_{row}$, where M is the modulation size and N_{trans} is the number of coded and rate-matched bits to be transmitted and the upper rows of the array have a higher priority than the lower rows of the array, and wherein data is read into the interleaver [row by row starting in the topmost row], filling the interleaver with all the systematic bits first, followed by the parity bits, and reading data out of the interleaver column by column.

15. (amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of bit priority mapping of systematic bits to position of higher reliability in a modulation constellation, wherein the mapping step includes providing an interleaver of size $N_{row} \times N_{col}$, where $N_{row} = \log_2(M)$ and $N_{col} = N_{trans}/N_{row}$, where M is the modulation size and N_{trans} is the number of coded and rate-matched bits to be transmitted and the upper rows of the array have a higher priority than the lower rows of the array, and wherein data is read into the interleaver [row by row starting in the topmost row], filling the interleaver with all the systematic bits first, followed by the parity bits, and reading data out of the interleaver column by column.

23. (amended) The coder of claim 22, wherein interleaver provides an array of size $N_{row} \times N_{col}$, where $N_{row} = \log_2(M)$ and $N_{col} = N_{trans}/N_{row}$, where M is the modulation size and N_{trans} is the number of coded and rate-matched bits to be transmitted, and the upper rows of the array have a higher priority than the lower rows of the array, and wherein the bit priority mapper provides data into the interleaver [row by row starting in the topmost row], filling the interleaver with all the systematic bits first, followed by the parity bits, and wherein the interleaver outputs data column by column.

Please note the new correspondence address below.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees necessitated by actions taken herein to Deposit Account 13-4768.

Respectfully submitted,

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